volunter-based programme. The Scheme has now been made result-oriented, cost-effective time-bound and area-specific. Following steps have been taken to ensure proper implementation of the projects under this Scheme.

(i) Traditional centre-based programme with payment of honorarium to instructor would not be supported in future. The projects would now be implemented as total literacy campaigns with the objective of making a compact and contiguous area literate within a period of two years.

(ii) Financial pattern has been made flexible with all additional component of environment building so that conducive environment may be generated and sustained during the project period.

(iii) Teaching and learning material to be used in the projects has been developed on the new technique of Improved Page & Content of Learning.

(iv) State Resource Centres and District Resource Units all over the country would provide techno-pedagogic support.

(v) Selection of voluntary agencies has been streamlined in collaboration with State Governments/ Union Territories so that only voluntary agencies having a good track record of social service may be involved in the programme.

(vi) Workshops are being conducted at State Resource Centres to appraise the voluntary agencies about the revised guidelines and also help them in the field of environment building and teaching pedagogy.

Palace on Wheels

6445. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to organise a one week round trip on Palace on Wheels for 50 guests on a complimentary basis;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the benefits expected from this gesture; and

(c) whether this train has been designed primarily for foreign tourists against payment in foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Palace on Wheels is a project aimed at development of tourism in Rajasthan. Indians as well as foreign nationals can travel on this train. The foreign nationals/ NRIs pay the tariff in US dollars and the Indians in rupees.

[*Translation*]

Special Trains for Singhasth

6446. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to run special trains for the Singhasth Mahapurb to be started in Ujjain from April 17, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Depending upon traffic and resources, special trains would be run from Ujjain to Bhopal, Nagda-Ratlam, Guna, Indore/Mhow and back.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Cut in Monthly Allocation of Foodgrains to States

6447. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to cut monthly allocation of foodgrains to the States with immediate effect;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of States affected by this decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). Allocations of rice and wheat from the Central Pool are made keeping in view the stock position, seasonal availability, requirements of various States, price trends and other relevant factors. These allocations are supplementary in nature and are not meant to meet the entire demand of a State/UT. There thus necessarily vary from month to month. Allocation of rice and wheat made to various States/UTs in 1992 are given in the statement attached.